

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

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December 1976

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

In anticipation of an exhibition of Japanese screens opening at the Cleveland Museum of Art on March 22, the Museum's Junior Council will offer a series of lectures entitled Art and Splendour: The Japanese Screen on three consecutive days, from Tuesday, February 22 through Thursday, February 24.

The three slide-illustrated lectures will be given by Cleveland Museum director Sherman E. Lee and Harold P. Stern, director of The Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

All lectures are open to the public and will be held in the Museum's Gartner Auditorium. To insure adequate parking space for lecture attendants, free shuttle bus service will be available to and from the Museum and nearby parking areas.

Dr. Lee will initiate the series on Tuesday, February 22, at 10:30 a.m. with a lecture on Early Japanese Screen Painting. On Wednesday, February 23, at 8:30 p.m., Dr. Stern will speak on Japanese Screen Painting of The Floating World. The final lecture, entitled Rimpa: The World of Decorative Screen Painting, will be given by Dr. Lee on Thursday, February 24, at 10:30 a.m.

Drs. Lee and Stern are uniquely qualified to speak on the subject of Japanese screens since the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Freer Gallery have two of the finest collections of Japanese screens outside of Japan. Both men are also eminent authorities on Oriental art.

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Dr. Stern was awarded a Ph.D. in Japanese art history from the University of Michigan. He joined The Freer Gallery of Art in 1951, becoming director in 1971. He has served as a consultant for several Japanese and Korean loan exhibitions to the United States and has organized and written catalogs for exhibitions of Japanese art from American museums and private collections.

He has lectured throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, and has contributed articles on Japanese art to a number of art journals. Among his books are Masterprints of Japan: Ukiyoe Hanga; Rimpa: Masterworks of the Japanese Decorative School; Birds, Beasts, Blossoms and Bugs: The Nature of Japan; and a handbook for The Freer Gallery of Art -- Masterpieces of Chinese and Japanese Art.

Dr. Lee, director of the Cleveland Museum of Art since 1958, also serves as chief curator of Oriental art. Before joining the Museum's curatorial staff in 1952, he was curator of Far Eastern art at the Detroit Institute of Arts and associate director of the Seattle Art Museum, renowned for its Oriental collections. Of special interest to the lecture audience are his books, A History of Far Eastern Art and Japanese Decorative Style.

Dr. Lee was decorated by the Japanese government in the fall of 1976 on the occasion of his visit to Japan for the opening of the exhibition, Masterpieces, East and West, from American Museum Collections. Dr. Lee was chairman and Dr. Stern a member of the committee which selected works for this important American loan exhibition to Japan.

Tickets for the 1977 lecture series are available now from the Museum Membership Department. If purchased by January 15, a series ticket will cost \$9.00; after that date the price will be \$11.00. Tickets for individual lectures are \$1.50 each for students and \$4.00 each for all others. Tickets will be

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available at the door before each lecture. To secure tickets in advance, checks should be made payable to the Junior Council, The Cleveland Museum of Art, and mailed to the Membership Department at the Museum, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. All proceeds benefit the Museum.

Chairman of the 1977 series is Mrs. Harold V. Ensten.

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For additional information, please contact Ann Edwards, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; 216/421-7340.